**Constitution of All India Judicial Service Commission**

866. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set-up an All India Judicial Service Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such Commission is also proposed to be set-up at the state level;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) The Law Commission in its 116th Report and the First National Judicial Pay Commission have recommended to set up a National Judicial Commission for selecting the candidates for All India Judicial Service.

The question of creation of All India Judicial Service is under consideration of the Government. No proposal to set up an All India Judicial Service Commission is under consideration of the Government separately.

**Opening of separate High Court in NER**

867. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan for opening separate High Court by upgrading the existing High Court bench system in addition to the Guwahati High Court in the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereo. and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total number of cases pending before Guwahati High Court, bench-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Governments of seven States of North-Eastern region were informed in 1987 of the decision of the Central Government for setting up of separate High Courts for these States, and pending Parliamentary legislation for the purpose, for establishing permanent Benches of the Guwahati High Court in the capitals of these States. The permanent Benches of the Guwahati High Court have been established in the capitals of these States, except Assam, as and when the concerned State Governments have provided requisite infrastructual facilities. The last such Bench has been established at Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh with effect from 12th August, 2000.

The Governments of Tripura and Manipur had proposed setting up of separate High Courts for their respective States. However, in view of the workload, the State Governments were informed that the existing permanent Benches of the High Court at Agartala and Imphal are sufficient for the present.

(c) A statement in this regard is annexed.

**Statement**

*Bench-wise number of cases pending before Guwahati High Court*

| Sl. No. | Bench | Pending cases as on 31.3.2001 |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Principal Seat | 35,764 |
| 2. | Kohima Bench | 547 |
| 3. | Shillong Bench | 850 |
| 4. | Imphal Bench | 6,841 |
| 5. | Agartala Bench | 4,095 |
| 6. | Aizawl Bench | 350 |
| 7. | Itanagar Bench | 281 |

**Need for Judicial Reforms**

868. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need for judicial reforms in the country particularly because of huge pending cases, prolonged trails,